

CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD



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August 6, 2007

WESLEY CHESBRO WCHESBRO@CIWMB.CA.GOV (916) 341-6039 The Honorable Mayor Marshall Holloway 100 W. California Avenue Ridgecrest, CA 93555

JEFFREY DANZINGER JDANZINGER@CIWMB.CA.GOV (916) 341-6024 RE: 30-Day Notice of Intent to Issue the City of Ridgecrest a Compliance Order for Failure to Adequately Implement its Source Reduction and Recycling Element

ROSALIE MULÉ RMULE@CIWMB.CA.GOV (916) 341-6016 Dear Mayor Holloway:

CHERYL PEACE CPEACE@CIWMB.CA.GOV (916)341-6010 The purpose of this letter is to formally notify the City of Ridgecrest (City) that the California Integrated Waste Management Board (Board) will be considering issuing the City a Compliance Order at a public meeting in September. This action is based on Board staff's review of the City's progress in implementing diversion programs to meet the requirements of Public Resources Code Section 41780. Failure to meet the requirements of the Compliance Order may result in civil penalties of up to \$10,000.00 per day.

GARY PETERSEN GPETERSEN@CIWMB.CA.GOV (916) 341-6035 Board staff has conducted a 2003/2004 Biennial Review of the City's Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) program implementation to-date and diversion rate achieved. Board staff's Biennial Review findings indicate the City has failed to adequately implement its SRRE-selected diversion programs, and that its diversion rate is inaccurate. Additionally, the City has not shown a good faith effort to implement programs with sufficient diversion to enable the City to achieve the 50 percent diversion requirement. As a result, the Board will consider issuing the City a Compliance Order that will require the City to work directly with Board staff to develop a Local Assistance Plan (LAP). The LAP will outline diversion programs and specific tasks the City will implement to bring the City into compliance. The LAP will also identify local actions necessary to determine an accurate diversion rate.



In order to finalize a recommendation, Board staff met with City representatives on March 27, 2007, to discuss the City's 2003/2004 Biennial Review results. At the meeting we visited the Ridgecrest-Inyokern landfill, the primary landfill facility used by the City. We also visited the two privately operated recycling

centers in the City and observed how materials are currently processed for diversion. We discussed with City staff the diversion programs currently being operated within the City and the diversion amounts resulting from these programs, the inaccuracy of the City's diversion rate, and additional efforts needed to meet the requirements. We also discussed the lack of the following programs:

- Residential curbside collection of recyclable materials,
- · Commercial collection of recyclable materials,
- · School recycling programs,
- · A stronger government recycling program and procurement policy.

Staff strongly recommends that you or your City's representative attend both the Board's September Permitting and Compliance Committee meeting and the full Board meeting at which a Compliance Order will be considered. The City representative will have an opportunity to present the City's program implementation efforts, diversion rate achievement, reasons the City has not made a good faith effort to implement its SRRE, and/or any special circumstances the Board should consider. The representative should also be prepared to answer any questions from the Board. The public hearings will be held at the Board's headquarters in Sacramento on the following days:

Permitting and Compliance Committee Meeting

Date: September 10, 2007

Time: 1:30 P.M.

Location: Joe Serna Jr.,

CalEPA Building Coastal Hearing Room

1001 I Street, 2nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

Board Meeting

Date:

September 18, 2007

Time: 10:00 A.M

Location: Joe Serna Jr., CalEPA Building

Byron Sher Auditorium 1001 I Street, 2nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

Should you have any questions about this letter or the upcoming Committee or Board meeting, please contact Curie S. Canuela at (916) 324-6373.

Respectfully.

Trevor O'Shaughnessy

Jurisdiction Compliance and Audit Section

cc: James McRea, Public Services Director; City of Ridgecrest